

Arafat arrives in Jeddah

JEDDAH, Dec. 21 (AFP). — Mr. Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), arrived here today, official Saudi sources disclosed. The PLO leader flew here after talks with government leaders in Libya and Algeria. His arrival in the Saudi royal capital came the day after a visit by Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية « الراي »

Waldheim to visit Mideast

UNITED NATIONS, New York, Dec. 21 (AFP). — United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim will visit the Middle East at the end of January as part of his efforts to revive the peace process there. U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. William Scranton said here today. Mr. Waldheim is known to have been invited to visit Egypt, and expects to be invited to Syria. He is also thought certain to go to Jordan and Israel, though it is not known if he will see Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders as well.

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W. Bank youths outsmart new Israeli gimmick

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (Agencies). — Senior Israeli military spokesmen said today that children involved in demonstrations on the occupied West Bank had begun to wear masks after the successful introduction of cameras with telephoto lenses.

He told newsmen that this followed the military authorities' presenting youngsters with photographs of themselves throwing rocks at Israeli soldiers or vehicles. Some youths had been transferred to other schools and 42, detained during the past week, were brought to trial and will probably be fined, he said.

The cameras used by the army can identify people at distance of kilometre.

The officer told newsmen the recent unrest had taken place in schools in Nablus and Ramallah.

The demonstrations have been protest at the attempt to impose on the occupied territories an Israeli value-added tax (VAT) on retail sales.

The military authorities now plan to isolate student leaders instead of handing out collective measures such as closing schools and imposing restrictions.

Meet approves agenda for closer Arab culture ties

AMMAN (JNA). — The First Conference of Arab Culture Ministers Tuesday morning held its second session at the Al Hussein Youth City, where it approved a draft project of eleven recommendations it will adopt in its closing session on Thursday.

The recommendations stress the need for new organisational policies for Arab cultural agencies and to work out ways to ease cultural cooperation between Arab countries.

The recommendations also include proposals related to the financing of Arab cultural work, the complementarity between Arab cultural and educational bodies, the boosting of Arab cultural cooperation in the international field to bring out and highlight Arab culture, establish cultural centres abroad and cooperate on cultural themes with foreign universities and institutes, and finally emphasise the cultural values and tradition of the Palestinian people in particular.

Tuesday's session of the conference was chaired by the Minister of Culture and Youth, Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf, who announced that the "Amman Communique" will be issued by the conference in its final session Thursday and will include, among others, the recommendations of the conference.

Sharif Fawwaz thanked the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (AECSCO) for preparing the conference. AECSCO is a specialised agency of the Arab League whose aims are to promote cultural unity between Arab countries.

Delegation heads were unanimous as to the positive results of the conference which, they said, were made possible by Jordan's efforts in organising it.

His Majesty King Hussein received the Arab ministers of culture attending the conference at Al Hashimiyah Palace Thursday evening and briefed them on the current political situation in the Middle East.

On Monday evening Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf gave a dinner banquet at the Al Hussein Youth City in honour of the Arab delegations participating in the conference. It was attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Cabinet Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf and a number of government officials.

Egypt, Syria agree to study moves towards unity

CAIRO, Dec. 21 (R). — Egypt and Syria today agreed to form a unified political command to study ways of uniting their two countries into one state, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi said. Mr. Fahmi, addressing a press conference at the end of a four-day official visit here by President Hafez Assad, said the political command would be formed as soon as possible.

Committees to study unification would be formed in constitutional affairs, defence and national security, foreign affairs and information, finance and economy, education and culture and other financial and legislative affairs, he said.

Simultaneously with Mr. Fahmi's press conference, in Damascus, Syrian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam read to reporters the text of the joint communique

which ended President Assad's visit to Cairo. President Assad had returned earlier today to Damascus.

The communique was called "an historic turning point for the Arab world and an important step on the road to union".

Mr. Fahmi stressed that today's agreement did not conflict with the three-nation federation linking Egypt, Syria and Libya created five years ago.

In the communique, Egypt and

Syria asked United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to undertake consultations with all parties to the Middle East conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), with a view to reconvening the Geneva peace conference.

The United States and the Soviet Union, co-chairman of the conference, were also asked to outline their views and plans for peace in the Middle East.

The PLO, Egypt and Syria

expressed in the communique, should take part in the conference on an equal footing with other participants and as an independent delegation. The PLO, they said, was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Presidents Sadat and Assad said that a just peace in the Middle East would allow the Arab world to devote itself to economic and social development.

Mr. Fahmi, commenting on a Syrian statement favouring a single Arab delegation to the Geneva conference, said that Presidents Sadat and Assad had ruled out such a possibility during their Cairo talks, believing that it was not the best way to defend the Arab cause.

Egypt and Syria further declared their determination to help settle existing problems between Arab nations and to strengthen Arab solidarity.

Regarding Lebanon, the communique expressed satisfaction at efforts to end the bloodshed there. Syria and Egypt said they were confident that national unity could be achieved in Lebanon to ensure reconstruction of the country and the pursuit of the objectives of the Palestinian resistance.

Begin tries to scuttle Rabin's election plan

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (AFP). — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin opened a debate in the Knesset today by announcing the resignation of his coalition cabinet and urging early general elections. Mr. Rabin handed in the resignation to President Ephraim Katzir last night.

The prime minister called on the Knesset to dissolve itself in order to give Israelis the opportunity to choose leaders who can form a government "with a renewed mandate from the nation".

But Mr. Menachem Begin, head of the opposition conservative Likud Party, asked the Knesset to allow the normal process of constitutional consultations to be carried out — which could result in Mr. Begin being asked to try to form a government, if Mr. Rabin persisted in demanding elections and declined to attempt another coalition.

In accordance with the constitution, President Katzir is to open consultations with the various party leaders, beginning with Mr. Rabin, on Sunday.

In parliamentary circles, it was not known whether Mr. Begin meant by his statement to the Knesset today to enhance his prestige

as a spokesman by suggesting he could form a government or whether he actually intended to try.

Editorial comment on page 2

The latter possibility would lend credence to rumours of contacts between Mr. Begin and former Defence Minister Moshe Dayan, reportedly with a view toward forming a conservative coalition along with dissidents from Mr. Rabin's Labour Party who oppose any territorial concessions in the occupied West Bank.

Originally, the rightwing opposition had been believed to be as eager as the labourites to see early elections.

In the Knesset, however, Mr. Begin said parliament should not call early elections "before giving the president the material possi-

bility of exercising his constitutional prerogatives" — consulting the various party leaders "on the possibility of forming a new government."

Mr. Rabin, on the other hand, asked the Knesset "not to slow down" the constitutional process toward new elections.

ARAB TROOPS HALT PALESTINIAN IN-FIGHTING NEAR BEIRUT CAMP

BEIRUT, Dec. 21 (R). — The Arab League peace forces intervened today in new fighting among rival Palestinian commandos which threatened the five-week truce in Lebanon's civil war.

The forces shelled Palestinian positions on the southern outskirts of Beirut after pro-Syrian and pro-Iraqi commando factions fought each other early this morning, using rockets and mortars.

The rightwing Phalangist Radio said more than 13 shells fell on areas of east Beirut, and it accused the pro-Iraqi Palestinian Rejection Front of firing them to try to widen the conflict.

The battle began soon after midnight with sporadic shooting in and around the Palestinian camp of Sabra.

Informed sources said pro-Syrian Saika commandos in the narrow streets were fighting against followers of the Rejection Front, as they did on Sunday night.

Heavy firing broke out again just before dawn, when the area was shrouded in repeated rocket and mortar explosions. Syrian troops of the Arab forces cordoned off the area and closed a main road from publishing.

leading to Beirut airport, then shelled the combatants.

By mid-morning the firing had stopped and the airport road was open again. Sources said casualties were high.

An Arab League Truce Supervisory Committee of representatives of Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait is to have its third meeting on the subject of collecting heavy arms used by the factions to the civil war tomorrow.

The management of the leftist evening newspaper Al Yom announced today it could no longer appear following the arrest of its owner and the occupation by the Arab peace force of the press it had been using.

Palestinian sources said today that troops of the Arab peace force were today surrounding the weekly magazine Hadaf, the voice of the main rejectionist faction, Mr. George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

In the past week, soldiers of the force have occupied the offices and presses of six daily newspapers in Beirut to prevent them from publishing.

Confirms relation between oil prices, Mideast peace

Yamani: OPEC is alive and well

JEDDAH, Dec. 21 (Agencies). — The West about the collapse and disintegration of OPEC was "wishful thinking", Saudi Oil Minister, Sheikh Ahmad Yamani, has said today that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is alive and well despite the dispute over oil prices.

In an interview on Saudi television last night he said all talk in

the West about the collapse and disintegration of OPEC was "wishful thinking". "I do not think OPEC has collapsed or even weakened because all members believe they have no power outside it and this applies to Saudi Arabia as well as other members," he said.

He added that OPEC encountered disputes in the past but succeeded in suppressing news of the disputes. This time however, disagreement broke out into the open.

Referring to the five per cent increase in the price of oil by his country, Sheikh Yamani said: "This economic decision will serve political purposes similar to those for which the kingdom led the oil battle (reference to the war of October 1973).

"The movement now is towards a peaceful settlement in the region and certain countries can enforce or thwart a settlement. Israel was terrified over the past couple of weeks and its press clearly linked the Saudi position with the Middle East question."

The minister stressed that Saudi Arabia "will use the oil weapon any time it serves the Arab cause."

It has chosen to increase prices by five per cent because world inflation stood at 4.6 per cent, he added.

Sheikh Yamani denied reports from some Western countries and some OPEC countries claiming that Saudi crude oil output would be boosted to force the other OPEC countries to abandon their plans for a ten-plus-five per cent rise.

He said: "We won't double our oil production. In spite of our huge reserves we know that oil is among national riches that have to be preserved. Saudi Arabia is certainly taking its own interests into account, but also those of the international community."

In an earlier development, Kuwait's Oil Minister, Abdul Muttaleb Al Kazimi, said in Kuwait last night that the majority of oil exporting nations must cut back production to balance increases by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Speaking on television Mr. Al Kazimi, however, dismissed the possibility of a price war within OPEC.

Mr. Al Kazimi described as exaggerated estimates putting Kuwait's extra income from the price increase at over one billion dollars. Kuwait's increased commitments to the Third World would take much of the extra revenue, he said.

OPEC Special Fund will pay out \$40.5m. Thursday

Vienna, Dec. 21 (AFP). — A first instalment of nearly \$40.5 million of special aid from oil producing countries will be paid out to the five most needy developing countries here on Thursday, reliable sources said today.

The beneficiaries will be Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Guinea, Sudan and Western Samoa, according to sources close to the \$800 million Special Fund set up by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) last January.

The sources said assistance, in the form of credits, had been allocated on the basis of United Nations statistics.

Pakistan would be the biggest beneficiary with \$21,045,000, Sri Lanka would receive \$8.1 million, Guinea \$2,350,000, Sudan \$7,450,000, and Western Samoa \$1.6 million.

The sources said the funds would be transferred to the central banks of the five countries immediately after a formal ceremony at the Special Fund's office here on Thursday at which the loan contracts would be signed.

A second allocation of funds, to be shared out among 25 non-oil developing countries, would be made on Jan. 9, the sources said.

The 13 OPEC countries have earlier earmarked half of the initial capital, or \$400 million, as a contribution to the new International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) which will become

operational in Rome within the next several days.

They decided to split the remainder between aid to developing countries faced with balance of payments problems and assistance to specific development projects.

The conference of OPEC oil ministers at Doha, decided last week to channel another \$800 million of assistance to non-oil developing countries through the Special Fund next year.

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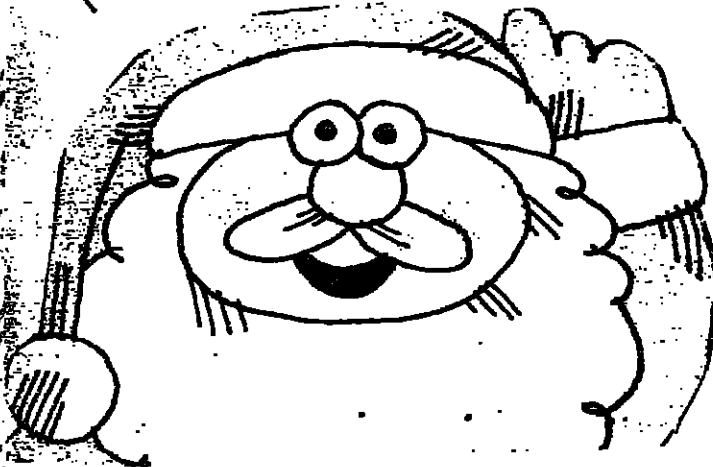
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BEIRUT'S CHRISTMAS -- An old man, accompanied by his dog, carries home a Christmas tree through the ruined streets of Beirut. After 19 months of civil war the Lebanese capital is beginning to have enough hope of peace to think of celebrating this feast of peace. (AP wirephoto).

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Arab meet studies financing joint Euro-Arab projects

CAIRO (JNA). — The Arab group which agreement on their implementation has already been concluded between the Arab and European sides.

A Kuwaiti suggestion which was also debated, provides for financing the joint Arab-European projects by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, and for the establishment of an Arab fund within the Arab League to finance such joint projects in the future.

Syria ratifies air accord with Jordan

DAMASCUS (JNA). — Syria Tuesday ratified the air transport agreement and its addenda recently concluded with Jordan.

The agreement designed provides for the removal of restrictions on air traffic between the two countries and facilitate operating conditions for their respective airline companies.

The agreement exempts the national

National Notes

● AMMAN. — The Ministry of Tourism, in cooperation with Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, has invited the Spanish Travel Agent Mr. Robear, and Mr. V. Ille, the head of the Spanish club Costa Brava for diving, to visit Aqaba. Both of the guests had a meeting with the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Mr. Ghaleb Barakat, and the ministry's general director. Their discussion centred on the projects which could expand and improve tourist attraction to Jordan, and especially water diving at Aqaba coast.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim Tuesday received the Indian non-resident ambassador to Jordan.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Information and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf received an invitation to visit Oman. The invitation was extended by his Omani counterpart Prince Fahd Al Sa'id.

● AMMAN. — The Arab Air Carriers Organisation has agreed at its meetings held in Cairo recently to set up an Arab civil aviation academy to be based in Jordan.

ional airlines in both countries from all customs, duties and taxes normally imposed on fuel used by the national airlines and on the imported spare parts and food supplies needed for catering.

It also aims to simplify transit passenger formalities and determine reasonable and standardised air tariffs.

Bilateral exchange of information related to aviation has been provided for and the Syrian Arab Airlines and Alia will be able to operate joint flights and long distance ones in particular.

The agreement also provides for the operation by the two countries' respective airlines, of regular flights to any point within Jordan and Syria. These flights, considered domestic, will thus enjoy all the privileges and rights of such flights as stipulated by the laws of both countries.

Jordan, USSR hold talks on information

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh Tuesday held talks with a Soviet delegation on mutual cooperation in the field of information.

Talks centred on the exchange of radio and television programmes.

During the meeting, the minister expressed his hope that selected educational programmes be exchanged to better acquaint Jordanians and Soviet with each other's culture.

The minister briefed the delegation on the activities of his ministry and its efforts in letting the world hear Jordan's voice.

The most important item in the agreement to be signed between the two countries is that it gives each party the freedom of choosing the programmes offered by the other party, the minister said.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.S. dollar	331.0	333.0
U.K. sterling	558.0	564.0
Swiss franc	135.7	136.1
German mark	140.2	140.6
French franc	66.5	66.8
Italian lira		
(for every 100)	38.4	38.6
Syrian pound	82.5	82.7
Lebanese pound	113.0	117.0
Saudi riyal	94.2	95.0
Iraqi dinar	945.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1150.0	1160.0
UAE dirham	83.0	84.0
Libyan dinar	710.0	725.0
Egyptian pound	460.0	472.0

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His Majesty King Hussein and His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, join in a round of the traditional folk dance (Dabkeh) with the members of the First Tank Regiment in the Armed Forces on the occasion of the regiment's 26th anniversary, Tuesday. (JNA photo).

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

All Jordanian dailies Tuesday devoted their editorials to the first conference of Arab culture ministers which His Majesty King Hussein opened in Amman Monday.

AL AKHBAR NEWSPAPER TO REAPPEAR

AMMAN (JNA). — The Cabinet has approved granting a licence for the publication of a daily Arabic language newspaper under the name of Al Akhbar with Mr. Rakan Al Majali as its responsible chief editor.

The decision was taken during a meeting presided by Prime Minister Mudar Badran Tuesday.

On this occasion the Jordan Times welcomes the new colleague and wishes it all success.

What's Going On

The Goethe Institute in cooperation with the University of Jordan will give a lecture on "The German Philosopher Nietzsche and the Arab World" The lecture will be given by Professor Dr. B.M. Weischer.

3:00 p.m., at Samir Rifai Hall.

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day. They all agreed that the meeting was a historic event which ought, in order to keep our civilization genuine and distinctive and at the same time to accompany the changing requirements and exigencies of time.

In fact, the writer adds, these phrases, clear and easy to understand, deal with a basic problem which the Arab mind is facing and which was probably largely responsible for "the worries and contradictions overshadowing our society and leaving their marks on the life of individuals and people at every level."

Writing in Al Dustour, Minister of Waqf, Islamic Affairs and Holy Places Kamel Al Sharif gives prominence to King Hussein's call on all Arab ministers of culture to "lay down a cultural framework strongly tied to Arab and Islamic heritage and which would accom-

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Time for a change?

The way things have been moving lately in and around the Middle East, it is probably all the better that the government of Premier Yitzhak Rabin has decided to step down now and thus set the stage for general elections in Israel this spring. Those elections had been scheduled for October, and looked to be another of the obstacles in the way of serious Middle East peace talks. Conventional thinking had it that it would take President-elect Carter 4-6 months to come up with an American policy towards the Middle East, by which time the Israelis would be politically immobilised because of their fall elections. It has also been the cornerstone of Mr. Rabin's policy -- or as much a policy as he can be said to have -- that he would not commit Israel to withdrawals from occupied Arab lands before consulting the Israeli people about the matter. One presumes such consultations would take the form of a general election or a referendum, and so now one expects Mr. Rabin to use the coming election as a test of what kind of mandate the Israelis will give him to enter into serious negotiations with the Arabs, especially the Palestinians.

The whole Israeli election campaign will inevitably have a never-never-land aura to it because the talk of "peace negotiations" that might puncture the electoral air will be largely undefined and unrealistic. It shall also be imposed upon the candidates to a great extent, because of the feeling today -- in the Middle East and elsewhere -- that an Arab "peace offensive" has been launched which requires a clear Israeli response. That response shall be what the Israeli party leaders will try to elicit from the Israeli people during the coming election. We expect that, as usual, the Israelis will talk about peace on the basis of such clearly ludicrous ideas as the Allon plan or other general proposals that expect peace to come out of a process that will have Israel do little beyond give back most of Sinai and stretches of the West Bank and the Golan Heights, without giving up Arab Jerusalem and all the occupied Arab territories, or coming to an agreement with the Palestinians that will take away the causes of the underlying Zionist-Palestinian conflict in Palestine. Those causes are the concept and practice of exclusivist Israel as a Zionist state. The occupied Arab lands are symptoms of the conflict, not its causes. For serious peace talks, the Israelis will have to be willing to make fundamental changes in the fabric and form of their state of Israel. This is the full process by which peace becomes possible. Our feeling is that the difficult totality of this shall be ignored during the Israeli election campaign, to the detriment of everybody in the Middle East, especially the Israelis.

The progress that has been made in the past decade, in terms of recognising more clearly the imperatives of peace in Palestine, is real progress indeed. The Israeli elections will show us how far the Israelis have come in this sphere, and how much farther they still have to go, particularly in appreciating the fact that their "peace" wishes will be finally satisfied only through a dialogue with the Palestinians. It is clear that the Israelis need more time to learn this, but perhaps the simultaneous advent of a new Israeli leadership and a new American leadership is the combination that will spark clearer American and Israeli perceptions -- and bolder actions -- in the Middle East peace picture. They are two out of the three elements that determine peace or war in the Middle East, and they have both been unwavering in their negative attitudes for many years. It may be time for a change.

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Makarios expects Cyprus talks to resume shortly

NICOSIA, Dec. 21 (R). — President Makarios revealed that because of the change in the U.S. administration his government had encouraged a recent initiative by the European Economic Community based on an earlier formula outlined by outgoing U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

The Archbishop said he believed that with Mr. Jimmy Carter in the White House, "the climate will become more favourable and more helpful to the effort to find a solution to our problem."

President Makarios said he did not expect a substantial change of policy in Turkey after its forthcoming elections, but hoped a strong government would emerge.

He said he believed Turkey was seeking a confederation of two separate states linked loosely together in Cyprus, which was absolutely unacceptable to the Greek-Cypriot side.

Iran-EEC trade talks are opened

BRUSSELS, Dec. 21 (AFP). — Iran's Finance Minister Hushang Ansary has opened negotiations on a trade and economic cooperation agreement with the European Economic Community at EEC headquarters here. Mr. Ansary and EEC Commissioner Finn Olav Gundelach, chief negotiator on behalf of the "nine", in introductory statements yesterday explained the position of each of the two sides.

Informed sources said the key issue in the negotiations, which are to continue next February, would be the terms for access to the EEC market of Iranian industrial products, including refined petroleum products and petrochemicals.

Both sides referred to Iran's recent prosperity. But neither commented on the increase in oil prices decided by the oil exporting countries over the weekend.

For productivity, against the gang of four 2 major campaigns dominate China

HONG KONG, Dec. 21 (AFP). — Chinese provincial radio broadcasts monitored in Hong Kong make it clear that two major campaigns are in full swing throughout China.

They are simultaneously directed at whipping up new enthusiasm and efforts for increased agricultural and industrial production and at thorough exposure of the "towering crimes of the gang of four."

It is claimed that the gang of four -- including Chairman Mao's widow attempted to ruin the economy so that after seizing party and state power they could present themselves as the nation's saviours.

Broadcasts from major provincial radio stations report many mass meetings where the two themes are linked in almost identical terms signifying a concerted and unified policy based on directives from the central party leadership.

On the production side of the campaign, the emphasis is on the need to "vigorously promote production" to "win back the losses caused by the interference and sabotage of the gang of four."

Extensive publicity is being given to the national conference which began in Peking last week on learning from Tachai (model production brigade) in agriculture.

The general call to peasants

made by the broadcasts is to "lay the foundation for realising a big and rapid increase in agriculture next year and surpassing the national agricultural development targets."

A Wuhan radio report on a conference of Hupeh provincial Communist officials and peasants urged "speeding up the pace of the development of the national economy."

Taken in conjunction with the agricultural meeting in Peking and the preparations officially an-

nounced as being made for a nationwide industrial conference, this exhortation can be viewed as a keying up of the nation to carry China forward to the front rank among world economies before the end of the century, as envisaged by the late Premier Chou En-lai a year ago.

Taching, China's leading oil producer, is also cited in the broadcasts as an example to be followed in the development of industry, commerce, communications and capital construction.

Chengtu Radio for instance announced that a municipal conference on learning from Taching would soon be convened.

Chengtu is the capital of Szechwan, the most populated province in China and one in natural resources.

The political side of the dual campaign is consistently similar throughout the provinces. It was well summed up by radio kumming on Dec. 16: "In the current struggle to expose and criticise the gang of four, the main tasks facing us are to give free rein to the masses, in close connection with reality, to thoroughly expose and criticise the towering crimes of the anti-party clique of Wang Hung-wen, Chang Chun-chiao, Chiang Ching and Yao Wen-yuan in usurping the party and seizing power, and rapidly investigate those people and events involved with the conspiratorial activities of the

gang of four. This is not only very necessary, but also opens the way for exposure and criticism. We must concentrate energy, forces, time and targets and fight this battle in a planned and organised way."

Another clear factor emerging from the radio broadcasts is that followers of the gang of four are still undertaking subversive activities in several provinces.

For instance, Kuming Radio said: "The faithful followers of the gang are still waiting to see which way the wind blows. They are even establishing ties, studying counter-strategies, creating rumours, stirring up factions, and shifting the main orientation of the struggle."

And two days ago Canton Radio urged "revolutionary vigilance" in guarding against sabotage.

"We must resolutely suppress class enemies who dare to sabotage this struggle (against the four), counter-revolutionaries and persons who beat, wreck and loot," the radio said.

Chairman Hua gets smooth treatment

PEKING, Dec. 21 (AFP). — Silk portraits of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng are the latest addition to the line of products from the famous silk factories of Hong-chow, in southern China, which specialise in weaving portraits of Mao Tse-tung.

The New China News Agency reported this morning that the Hangchow silk workers began preparing these new portraits as soon as Hua Kuo-feng was nominated as party chairman.

South Yemen releases Iranian Phantom pilot

ADEN, Dec. 21, (R). — South Yemen today released an Iranian pilot whose Phantom jet fighter was shot down last month over its eastern border region with Oman. It was officially announced here.

The pilot, Maj. Darius Jalali, 37, was handed over at Aden airport to a Saudi mission which had come to negotiate his release.

The major was flown off to Saudi Arabia after being carried on to the plane in a stretcher. He suffered a leg injury when his plane was shot down on Nov. 24.

South Yemen said the plane crossed its border from Oman on Nov. 24, but both Oman and Iran said the plane was brought down over Omani territory while on a training flight.

Maj. Jalali told an airport press conference that he was happy to be going home.

The South Yemen Foreign Ministry issued a statement here last night saying he was being released in response to a request from Saudi Arabia and as an expression of brotherly feeling towards that country.

Indonesia may not raise oil price by a full 10%

JAKARTA, Dec. 21 (AFP). — Indonesia will increase its crude oil export price by at least five per cent from Jan. 1, but not necessarily by as much as the 10 per cent agreed at the OPEC meeting in Doha, a Mining Ministry spokesman told AFP today.

The decision on new prices for sales to Japan will be made after the return of Mining Minister Mohammad Sadli from Qatar and consultations with Japanese importers, he added. Indonesia now has five different export prices for its crude, ranging between \$13 and \$10 a barrel.

Indonesian oil revenues were expected to increase by at least \$1,000 million in 1977 as a result of the price rise, the spokesman said. They were estimated at almost \$5,000 million for 1976.

Oil revenues accounted for 60 per cent of the nation's budget in 1976-1977, a proportion likely to remain unchanged next year.

The cheaper price of Saudi Arabian and United Arab Emirates oil would pose no problem for the marketing of Indonesian oil in Japan, the Mining Ministry spokesman said.

Indonesian authorities were confident that Saudi Arabia would be unable to cope with the increasing needs of Japanese industry and that Japanese importers would continue to buy Indonesian crude in at least as large quantities as before.

Japan has been by far the largest importer of Indonesian crude, the last yearly figure approximating 300 million barrels.

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7:00 Breakfast show	15:00 Concert hour
7:30 News bulletin	16:00 Old favourites
7:40 Morning melodies	16:30 Easy listening
8:00 Sign off	17:00 Thriller
12:00 Pop session Pt. I	17:30 Pop session Pt. III
13:00 News summary	18:00 News summary
13:05 Pop session Pt. II	18:05 Pop session Pt. IV
14:00 News bulletin	18:30 Science report (rep.)
14:15 Radio magazine	19:00 News bulletin
14:30 Pop session Pt. IIB	19:10 Music
14:45 Fifteen weekly	19:30 Sign off

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Ibrahim Nasr (23552)	Irbid :
Muwafaq Katibi (41277)	Awda
Irbid :	
Fawwaz Momani	Zarqa :
Mouanes Beiruty	Shifa'
	Hawuz
Zarqa :	
Mahmoud Mbaydeen	
Pharmacies :	
Amman :	Jerusalem (36955)
Kamel (26295)	Shmeisani (21523)
Al-Jala' (24228)	Mahd (22038)
	Neel (44433)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Departures :

6:50 Aqaba	8:20 Muscat, Doha
9:05 Rome (Alitalia)	8:20 Dubai (Alitalia)
9:30 Damascus, Aleppo	8:30 Aqaba
9:45 Istanbul	8:30 Jeddah
10:00 Larnaca, Athens	8:45 Karachi, Abu Dhabi
11:00 Vienna, Copenhagen	12:15 Beirut (MEA)
12:00 London	14:15 Athens (GA)
13:30 Beirut (MEA)	15:00 Aleppo, Damascus
15:00 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GA)	15:00 Istanbul
15:45 Riyadh Dahrhan (SDI)	17:55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
16:30 Cairo	18:20 Athens, Larnaca
17:00 Jeddah	19:50 London (BA)
18:55 Baghdad, Kuwait	21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)
20:00 Dahrhan	22:30 Jeddah
20:35 Rawalpindi (BA)	23:00 Cairo

Arrivals :

8:20 Muscat, Doha	8:20 Dubai (Alitalia)
8:30 Aqaba	8:30 Jeddah
8:45 Karachi, Abu Dhabi	12:15 Beirut (MEA)
14:15 Athens (GA)	15:00 Aleppo, Damascus
15:00 Istanbul	17:55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
18:20 Athens, Larnaca	19:50 London (BA)
21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)	22:30 Jeddah
23:00 Cairo	

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Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
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Najdeh, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37777

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French Cultural Centre	" 37009
Goethe Institute	" 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44203
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111

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05:00 World News; 24 hours	13:45 A Jolly Good Show
05:30 Composer of the Week	14:30 What is Happiness
05:45 The World Today	15:00 Radio Newsreel
06:00 News; Press Review	15:15 Outlook
06:30 Terry Wogan's LP Showcase	16:00 News; Commentary
07:00 News; 24 hours	16:15 My Music
07:30 Composer of the Week	16:45 The World Today
07:45 Report on Religion	17:00 News
08:00 News	17:09 Discovery
08:15 The Mill on the Floss	17:40 Book Choice
08:30 John Peel	17:45 Sports Round-up
09:00 News; Press Review	18:00 News; Radio Newsreel
09:30 Financial News	18:30 Top Twenty
09:45 Paperbacks	19:00 Outlook : News Summary
10:00 News; 24 hours	19:42 Stock Market Report
10:30 Opera Review	19:45 Portraits and Landscapes
11:00 News	20:00 News; 24 hours
11:15 Business and Industry	20:30 Take it or Leave it
11:30 Farming World	21:00 Report on Religion
12:00 Radio Newsreel	21:30 Great Piano Composers
12:15 Baker's Half-Dozen	22:00 News; The World Today
12:45 Sports Round-up	22:25 Financial News
13:00 News; 24 hours	22:45 Sports Round-up
13:30 World Radio Club	23:00 News; Commentary

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6	9:15 Arabic series
6:00 Quran	
6:05 Cartoons	Channel 6
6:30 Agricultural programme	7:30 News in Hebrew
7:00 Lucy show	7:45 Varieties
8:00 News in Arabic	8:30 Dr. in charge
Channel 3	9:10 The Pallisers
7:30 Sports programme	10:00 News in English
8:30 Arabic series	10:15 Police story
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The bedouin woman: Symbol of love and war

The bedouin woman is the mirror image of the man, a person to be consulted on certain matters. She can propose marriage and participate, in a limited way, in war.

Bedouin habits, in particular towards guests, are very strict. Once meaningful contact is established, once the guest has partaken of the host's "bread and salt", relations and obligations by both sides are firmly cemented.

These are some of the points that come to light through the intriguing research of poet-writer Capt. Ahmed Oweidi Abbadi. An expert on bedouin affairs for he himself is one of their number. Capt. Abbadi deals with different aspects of bedouin life in a series of 10 books that unfortunately are only in Arabic.

Two are already published, and the remaining eight are to appear soon. This article deals with the first two. In a future article for the Jordan Times, Capt. Abbadi will describe the contents of the others.

In his books, Capt. Abbadi

does not just describe habits, but explains the principle, the philosophy and theory that are behind them. He analyses things as they are or how they should ideally be in the future. At times he relates a habit to the pre-Islamic -- Al Jahiliya -- or post-Islamic periods.

Capt. Abbadi, who has an M.A. in social studies and a higher diploma in Islamic studies, is a public relations officer at the Police Security Department and the responsible editor for the police security magazine "Al Shurtah".

Capt. Abbadi has produced a 13-episode television serial called "Wadha wa Ibn Ajlan," relating the story of love and war in bedouin societies. This television serial has been shown by Jordan Television as well as by T.V. stations in the Arab Gulf, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

His second 13-episode T.V. serial, "The Eagles of the Desert", deals with contemporary ways of thinking. The topics touched upon include literature, law, love, war, deceit, virtue and vice.

or she may agree to elope with him.

Participation In War

Women may participate in war in two ways:

-- As an "otfah", meaning the woman sitting inside a "howdah", or carriage. This structure is mounted on a camel's back. She must sing and welcome the idea of war while the "howdah" is guarded by horsemen.

If, however, the "otfah" is taken prisoner, her tribe will no longer maintain the right to fight the enemy tribe until the lapse of a long period of time, the appointment of a new sheikh to replace the old one and the capture of its enemy's "otfah" in return for its own.

-- To support the men's morale, encourage fighters, sing for the war or nurse the wounded.

Values And Habits

"Bedouin Values and Ideal Social Habits" is Capt. Abbadi's second book, which analyses the rules of social behaviour among individuals and groups in a bedouin society.

It stresses in particular the way of greeting, which among bedouins, is considered the key to friendship and is expressed by special rituals and verbal expressions.

The book also emphasises table manners, ideal ways of social entertainment, family relationships and how to pray and ask favours from God.

Individual and group relationships are considered vital for the smooth running of bedouin society.

Love and war should go side by side, and there is no meaning to the one without the other.

Marriage Customs

The bedouin woman has the full freedom to propose marriage to any bedouin man who becomes famous for his fighting exploits or for some outstanding quality, even if he belongs to an enemy tribe.

"Of a dominant, tall stature, with her head high and her long neck, the bedouin woman looks through her large eyes, contoured by her extra long eyelashes, softly and yet sharply at the bedouin man ... She is often considered as an object of enjoyment, a mirror in which the man sees himself, a symbol of what he is looking for or a representation of the bitter things in life."

From A Man's Eye

Seen through the eyes of a bedouin man, the woman evokes love and war, courtship and marriage.

She is often considered as an object of enjoyment, a mirror in which the man sees himself, a symbol of what he is looking for or a representation of the bitter things in life.

She is believed to be complementary to man and to be his derivative.

The bedouin man hates the talkative woman, the greedy woman and the sickly malingering woman. Bedouin sheikhs -- tribal leaders may seek the advice of the woman, particularly in matrimonial and household affairs.

Love and war are important themes in bedouin life and cannot be absent from it. The woman, as a symbol of love, becomes very important in bedouin circles.

She may either send for him secretly, even if he is married, or openly ask him to become her husband.

If a young man and woman fall in love with one another, the young man has the right to come secretly at night to his beloved and talk with her. He is not, however, allowed to touch or greet her, and he must leave her side before dawn. If he is caught, it might be fatal for him.

Marriage takes place in various ways: The young man may pay his dues to the girl's family; girls from two concerned families may be exchanged in marriage; a young man may take the girl by force;

Emergency relationships impose on individuals the responsibility of providing shelter and protection to any person who comes to take refuge with a particular family or tribe, even if he is their enemy.

Hospitality

As to hospitality, Capt. Abbadi adopts a theory which differentiates between "principle and habit".

The principle of hospitality is to have the guest stay for one day and one night, while the habit is three-and-a-half days or 10 meals. If the guest chooses to stay for a longer period, the hospitality

concept turns into a charity concept and the tribe must study the guest's circumstances and decide in what way he can be helped. Such an act is in accordance with the teachings of the prophet Mohammed.

A guest who only spends one-third of a day with his hosts and joins them for at least one meal, establishes, according to bedouin customs, "bread and butter" ties of friendship with his hosts.

This means that when the guest decides to leave the tribe, the tribe vows to protect the person who ate salt with them until he leaves the tribes boundary, and only up to the time he eats salt from another tribe. After that the vow is no longer valid.

On the other hand, if any harm befalls the tribe the guest has just left, then he becomes obligated to help protect the tribe until he eats salt from another tribe.

As long as the guest is in its hospitality, the tribe cannot attack him.

But once the guest leaves the tribe's boundary and after he eats salt with others, the tribe has the right to fight him outside its own territory, but only after warning him and reminding him of the existing feud between the two.

To fight him, certain conditions have to be fulfilled. The guest should not be unarmed; his men should be equal in number to those who intend to fight him; and the weapons of the two parties should be identical in kind and size.

Bedouin Coffee

Capt. Abbadi proposes a new theory on coffee -- the theory of "the four cups".

The first cup is called the "heif" cup. This means that the host must drink in front of the guest before the guest drinks to assure the guest that the coffee is safe to drink and to make sure that the coffee is not cold and is suitable for serving.

The second cup is called the guest's cup -- "al daif" cup. This is the first cup that the guest drinks and merely by the act of the guest drinking, "bread and salt" friendship ties are established between the host and the guest. Coffee plays the role of real bread and salt.

The third cup is called the "keif" or entertainment cup. This is the second cup the guest drinks and it signifies that he feels at home with his hosts and that the hosts in turn have accepted him wholeheartedly.

The fourth cup is called the "seif" or "sword" cup. This means that after the guest has been accepted by drinking the "guest" cup and entertained by the "keif" cup, it now becomes his duty to



The women of the desert: Important consultative role in their society.

defend and protect his hosts, as it also becomes their duty to defend and protect him.

In later social gatherings with the same guest, two consecutive cups of coffee are always offered to him.

In symbolic terms, the "keif" cup is for additional entertainment and the "seif" cup to reinforce their mutual duty in defending one another -- this whether the guest still feels at home or not.

There is no more need for the first "heif" cup and the second "guest" cup to be offered, since the coffee has already long ago taken its place as the "bread and salt" of the host. The host's duty is to offer the "guest" cup upon his arrival, has automatically become host and guest of their moral obligation towards mutual defence within the host's territory.

When, however, the guest decides to leave the host or the tribe, only one cup of coffee is offered to the guest and this, according to the definite pact between



Capt. Ahmad Abbadi, author of a series of books on the bedouins and their habits, stands in front of his "subjects".

Foreign workers profit from stay in West Germany.. despite discrimination

BONN, (CSM). — Mustafa Durmus sports a thick, black moustache to complement his black curly hair. He came to West Germany from the province of Konya in Turkey in 1969 to "make a better life for myself -- and I have."

Officially he is called a "guest worker".

In 1973 West Germany stopped recruiting guest workers. Now more than 500,000 of them have gone back to their own countries. In that earlier year there were 26 million foreigners working here -- now there are just over 2 million.

The year 1975 was when the growth trend was really reversed. It was also a recession year, with a million Germans out of work.

In addition to the 500,000 Turks now working in Germany, there are 420,000 Yugoslavian guest workers, 300,000 Italians, 200,000 Greeks and 130,000 Spaniards. There are also workers from Portugal and Morocco.

Officials say 1.2 million of the 2 million foreign workers are considered permanent. Some 600,000 of these are nationals of the European Community countries. Under

EEC rules, such nationals can work without restriction.

The other 600,000 workers are either married to Germans or have been here long enough to have a permanent residence permit.

Many feel the foreign worker count will stay above 1.2 million. An unemployed foreigner can draw unemployment benefits (but when these expire after a year he cannot draw welfare).

This year Mr. Durmus will be joining thousands of his countrymen who are returning home.

"I will have an administrative job in a new factory in Konya that a group of us now in Germany have helped plan and build," he said.

Many foreign workers go home only with a better bank account. This young man, who is not yet 30, is jumping from labour to management.

Some of his friends, he said, "are not as satisfied as I am with the time spent in Germany" "Of course I found some discrimination -- but why complain? The thing to do is live your own life and not fight these cultural problems."

The next biggest problem

internal family conflict when children grow up here, learn German well and want a different life than their parents are used to. Some have even allowed their children to grow up illiterate rather than expose them to the German language and culture.

The federal and some state governments are spending a lot of money to train, educate, and generally help the foreign workers and their families.

For instance, police say more than 100,000 foreign workers are involved in organized crime. The federal government is trying to let millions of foreigners who work here.

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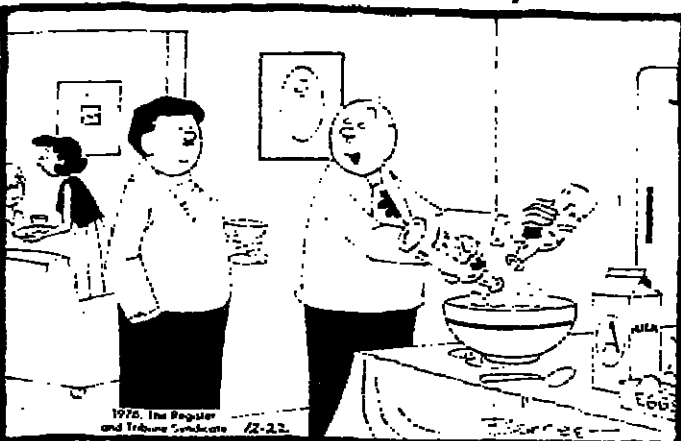
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مكاتب الاموال

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes



"The difference between Harriet's eggnog and mine is that with her the EGGS are grade-A jumbo."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1976, The Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A 9 7 5 3 2
♥ 7 5
♦ 10 5
♣ A 8 2

EAST
♠ K J 8 6 3 2
♥ K Q 4 3
♦ K 10 6 4 3
♣ J 9 5

SOUTH
♠ K Q
♥ A Q 10 4
♦ A J 9 8 7
♣ Q 7

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
3NT Pass 3NT Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Four of ♣.

We like to think that the new Charles Goren's 100 Challenging Bridge Hands would be the perfect gift for a bridge player in the holiday season. Selected from the nearly half-million hands that the author estimates he has played, written about or kibitzed, the hands are presented as problems in declarer play or defense, and the reader is invited to match his skill with the stars who faced these problems at the table.

This hand is from rubber bridge, and features an old friend—American internationalist, Harold Ogust. He and his partner conducted an orderly auction to a reasonable no trump game. In fact, North is to be commended for his decision to rake to three no trump instead of rebidding his six-card suit at his third turn. That was indeed fortunate, for a club lead by East against four spades would have left declarer with no chance.

West led his fourth-best club, which ran to the queen. With the spade suit apparently furnishing six tricks, it seemed that the no trump game would be a snap. However, declarer realized that a 4-1 spade break would pose problems.

With four tricks available in the other three suits, Ogust saw that he needed only five spade tricks to make his contract. Taking this into account, he found a way to give himself a vital extra chance in case the spades didn't split. At trick two, Ogust cashed the king of spades, then overtook the queen of spades with the ace. Had both opponents followed, declarer would have conceded a spade trick to set up the suit while the ace of clubs was still in dummy as an entry.

When East showed out on the second spade, declarer still had the time to fall back on his alternative line. He ran the ten of diamonds to West's king. West knocked out the ace of clubs, but declarer repeated the diamond finesse. When the queen of diamonds dropped under the ace, declarer was home with two spade tricks, one heart, four diamonds and two clubs.

THE RAGE OF THE PHOTO



UNDER GROUND -- Deutsche Bundesbahn, the West German railway company, probably runs the world's most closely-knit network of rail transport services in the Ruhr, one of the industrial heartlands of Western Europe. Few travellers ever suspect the existence of 3,450 kms. of subterranean railway between Duisburg and Dortmund. To talk in terms of an underground would nonetheless be misleading: 2,100 kms. of this unseen network are operated by Ruhrkohle, the Ruhr coal corporation.

GRAFFITI

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TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

WYATT EARP SYNDROME

The marriage of a young police officer gets disrupted by the hardships he encounters at his job.

LUCY SHOW

LUCY GETS CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT

Lucy by mistake finds herself enrolled in the army and is obliged to submit to military exercises.



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

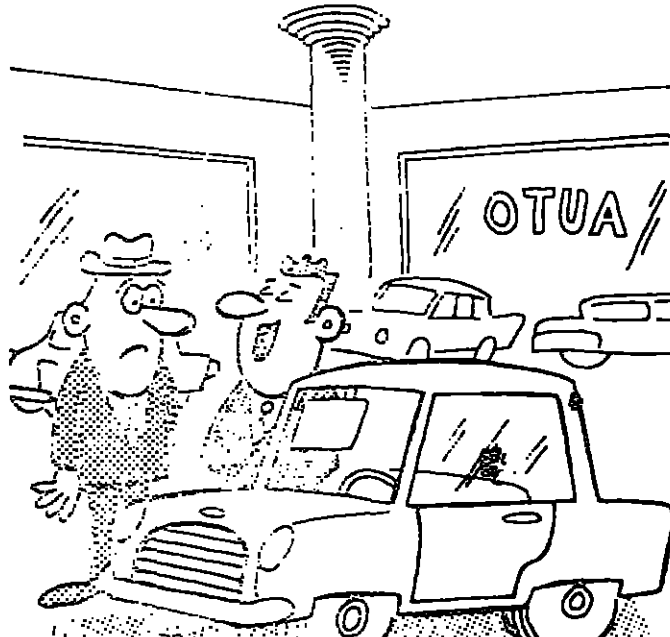
SURGE
PITED
NEPPIS
CLOSE



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:
(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumble: GRAIN LOOSE EFFIGY FORAGE
Answer: "Hailed" for holding things—FINGERS

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



DENMARK: Bjerggaard "..." and there's a guarantee on the car for the next 10 years — or the first five hundred kilometers, whichever comes first."

Your Horoscope



By Jeanne Dixon

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22

Your birthday today: Work hard early in the year to set up a productive rhythm which will carry you through the latter half-year without having to organize additional projects. Life takes on a dramatic undertone, to sharpen experience, hasten your learning. Relationships drift. Today's natives are versatile, regard life seriously, include innovators in communications systems. Those born this year before 10:35 a.m. EST continue the tradition. Those born later seek leadership in fields of theory, need a superior education.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Early morning is a last chance for some issues. Later, serious business outside routine isn't favored. Don't push your luck in relationship problems.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Finish shopping early, look about in comfort while associates figure how to get beyond unseen deadlines. Take the afternoon off for recreation if possible.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You find yourself striving for leadership as if you really want it. Relax! Promoting anything from mid-morning on results in very little. Listen for odd news.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Cooperation fades as most people feel they've too much to do, cut back to their own concerns. A quiet talk with someone you care for provides inspiration.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You work very well for a few hours. After lunch people are intent on getting

their own programs into shape and fail to notice your efforts to improve.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Youngsters are a pleasure or its opposite according to current conditions, neighborhood approach to living. Appointments are subject to needless change.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Although it's the peak of the rush season for most people, it's time for you to seek perspective. Release whatever has run its course in your daily life.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Whether you stick to the local scene or go traveling, do it lightly. Leave decisions at tentative levels. Frantic buying of bargain items gets you a lemon.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Money changes hands swiftly, too casually in many instances; in your favor early, above your budget after noon. What you gain now is merely temporary.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): This morning is the last favorable time for specialty holiday purchases. If you can't find what you want, try for something else. Verify any good news.

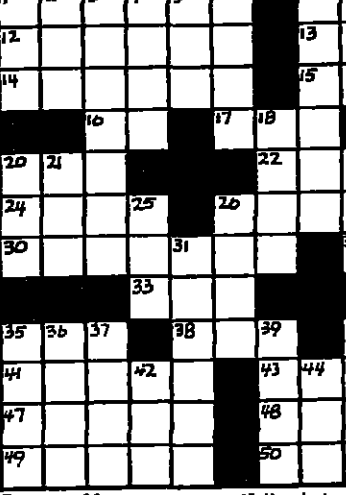
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Listen to friends although their conclusions are different and their solutions won't work. Be thankful everything is going your way as well as it is.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Do what is on hand with as little stress as feasible. Concentrate on the human side of living, minimize commercial moves. Redeem social obligations.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Color of cafe au lait
- Sadlike cavity
- Truman
- Constellation
- Expatriates
- Capacity
- As far as
- Bill colloq.
- Mayday
- World War II area
- Two-year sheep
- Etna
- Ennui
- Unreservedness
- Small tractor
- Cha
- Extended
- Follow
- Backward
- Singing syllable
- Sidestep
- Arabic acid
- Started
- Robbed silk
- Summery
- Jewel song in
- Thoroughfare



TERSE SHOP
EQUILATERAL
SUIT CREA IF
TANARD EVA
AL FLIP HAIR
ROOD HORDE
AZURE SELL
CORA BURY AD
ONE CRIB ELI
RE ERIN ULAN
STRANGULATE
ORGY SANER

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

- Consumed
- Aerie
- Fighter plane
- Swiss canton
- Gears
- District in New York
- Social insects
- Jot
- Fairy
- River in North Carolina
- Treasure
- Stroke
- Wild hog
- Permanent
- Palm leaf
- Employees
- Protect
- Liability
- Extra
- Variety of plum
- Dolls
- So-so
- Press for payment
- Scab laborer
- de France
- Seine

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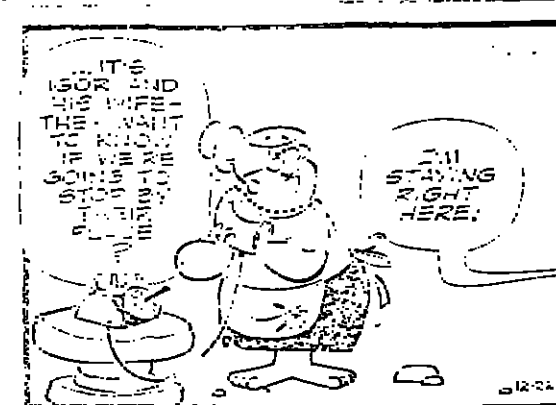
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EEC puts up its defences against an oil embargo

BRUSSELS, Dec. 21 (R). — The Common Market today agreed that member states should set up a joint defence system against a possible oil embargo or other supply shortfalls.

EEC energy ministers, at their first meeting since last week's two-tier price increase by oil producers, agreed in principle to authorise individual member states to ban oil exports to their partners in an emergency if supplies suddenly dry up, officials said.

Member states can act alone initially, but then their action must be endorsed by the community's decision-making Council of Ministers.

This is because a state cannot

close its frontiers against its partners for any product -- a move against the basic principles of the Common Market -- without special approval.

Alternatively the council can decide on some other action by the community as a whole to share available supplies among all nine states.

The decision by an individual country to ban oil exports could be taken when normal supplies fell by seven per cent.

The second stage of the defence mechanism would be a joint cut in oil consumption by all nine member states, but this is being blocked by Italy, more dependent on imported oil than the other EEC states, the officials said.

The EEC system is modelled on the scheme operated by the International Energy Agency, grouping the main non-communist industrialised countries except France.

EEC Energy Commissioner Henri Simonet told the ministers that today's limited agreement was the first step in a policy that should have been implemented three years ago after the energy crisis and four-fold increase in oil prices, the officials said.

Israel to shift digs to another Jerusalem site

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Dec. 21 (R). — Archaeological digs in Jerusalem will be shifted from the controversial Aqsa Mosque region to an area about a kilometre to the south, Israeli officials said here today.

They said the decision to move the diggings to the site of the Biblical "David's City" on the Ophel Slope was "not connected" with the criticism of Israel over the Islamic shrine site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Arab spokesmen here have charged that the Aqsa Mosque digs at the foot of the Wall threatened Islamic holy shrines.

A spokesman for these excavations said earlier this month that the diggings were to stop and the area would soon be open to the public.

Archaeological work at the Ophel site has been carried out since 1967. Officials said the study of material uncovered there would take some years to complete.

Rabin manoeuvres to overpower hawks, Le Monde editorialises

PARIS, Dec. 21 (R). — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is betting on the Arabs softening their stand before the Israelis elect a new parliament, the French newspaper *Le Monde* said today.

In an editorial commenting on Mr. Rabin's decision to end the government coalition and force parliamentary elections, the independent newspaper noted the developments came within 48 hours.

Le Monde wrote: "Mr. Rabin advanced on the double to conduct the daring endeavour which could prove very profitable for his party, in the field of home politics as well as in foreign affairs."

"Visibly, Mr. Rabin is betting on a softening of the Arab stand in order to be able, before fighting the election, to overpower the hawks both inside and outside his party. Before the vote he hopes to be in a position to offer, if not a detailed peace plan, at least encouraging prospects for a settlement."

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Trading interest faded on the stock exchange Tuesday and early gains were lost as seasonal considerations took pride of place.

But gilts held firm, helped by the exhaustion of £500 million long "tap" stock, which was introduced just over a week ago.

The Financial Times industrial shares index was up 0.3 on last night's revised index to 337.8.

Leading industrials to revert to overnight levels after being initially marked a little higher included Beechams, Glaxo, Fisons, Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) and Rank Organisation. But in engineers Guest Keen, Hawker and Tube Investments held very steady.

Hongkong Shanghai edged up but among the "big four" clearers, Lloyds was dull.

Oils eased back after a firm start, led by British Petroleum. In tobaccos BATS lost a point or two, but in shippings Furness Withy featured in a generally firmer section.

Gold turned mixed after early firmness in unison with the bullion price. Pancontinental fell back in Australians and De Beers was dull in diamonds.

Among plantations, Consolidated Plantations were fractionally steadier, but on the Japanese list Canon fell back after recent gains, while Sime Darby was a little uncertain among industrials.



NEW COMMERCE HEAD -- President-elect Jimmy Carter stands with his choice for secretary of commerce, Juanita Kreps, at a news conference in Plains, Georgia, Monday. Dr. Kreps, the first woman appointee by Mr. Carter, will leave her position as vice president of Duke University to join the cabinet. (AP wirephoto).

Carter appoints first black woman to cabinet

PLAINS, Georgia, Dec. 21 (AFP). — President-elect Jimmy Carter made history today by appointing

the first black woman to a United States cabinet post.

She is Mrs. Patricia Harris, former Dean of the Law School at Howard University, a school for blacks, as secretary of housing and urban development.

Mr. Carter announced Mrs. Harris' appointment at a press conference here. He also named Ray Marshall, a university economist, as secretary of labour, and Harold Brown, who is president of the California Institute of Technology, as secretary of defence.

Mr. Brown is considered a moderate. He was air force secretary under President Lyndon Johnson and is an expert on nuclear questions, having served on the U.S. delegation to the Geneva Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) Talks.

Mr. Carter named 50-year-old Charles Duncan, former President of the Coca-Cola Company, as assistant defence secretary.

Prentice's resignation embarrasses Callaghan

LONDON, Dec. 21 (Agencies). — Reg Prentice, an outspoken enemy of the party's influential leftwing, today announced his resignation as overseas development minister in Britain's Labour government.

Mr. Prentice, 53, has been fighting for months in his London parliamentary constituency against hardline leftists who infiltrated his local party branch committee and voted him out as their choice for candidate in any future election.

Mr. Prentice told reporters: "I intend to continue in the Labour Party for the foreseeable future, but I hope there will be a realignment in British politics. The country has lacked the sort of leadership it should have had under both (Conservative and Labour) governments."

This raised immediate speculation that Mr. Prentice might be looking towards the possible for-

mation here some time of a new party of moderates.

Mr. Prentice made it clear that meanwhile he would continue supporting the Labour government in the House of Commons where it has an effective overall majority of only one.

He also said he opposed the distribution -- although not the total amount -- of the £2.5 billion public spending cuts announced last week by Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey.

He told journalists he also disagreed with the government's bill to create separate assemblies with limited powers of home rule in Scotland and Wales.

Mr. Prentice, the most rightwing member of the cabinet, came under fire after he abstained on the devolution bill last week.

Prime Minister James Callaghan told parliament: "Mr. Prentice can choose for himself whether he wishes to stay or not, but I have not sacked him."

The resignation will embarrass the government as it struggles against fierce conservative opposition to its "socialist" measures. It also highlights a move begun by moderates recently to oust hardline leftwingers from the Labour Party. Mr. Callaghan himself has attacked what he calls dogmatic Marxists and Trotskyites who have infiltrated the party.

Spanish police mount new manhunt for kidnappers

MADRID, Dec. 21 (R). — Police searched for a missing Basque industrial engineer and a high official kidnapped 11 days ago as pressure mounted on the government to free Spain's estimated 200 political prisoners.

The 41-year-old engineer, Senor Mon Lopez-Andujar, disappeared in the Basque town of Renteria yesterday but police said they were not sure he had been kidnapped. His car was found abandoned with its doors open.

Sources close to the Basque nationalist guerrilla organisation ETA said it had nothing to do with his disappearance. He held no

strong political beliefs and was not wealthy.

Extreme leftwing guerrillas meanwhile held the President of Spain's advisory Council of State, Senor Antonio Maria de Oriol y Urquijo, for the 11th day.

The kidnappers, members of the First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance Groups (GRAPO), demanded the release of Spain's estimated 200 political prisoners in exchange for the 63-year-old former justice minister, who was abducted from his office in Madrid.

In a note sent last night to the liberal newspaper *El Pais*, the GRAPO reiterated their demand and said they would release Senor Oriol unharmed once the government complied.

"In our situation we cannot offer guarantees other than our word of honour before the people and international public opinion," they said.

Attached was a handwritten note by Senor Oriol saying that the kidnappers did not want money and warning his family against paying swindlers. He said he was well and was being allowed to read newspapers and listen to the radio.

900,000 people cross Jordan River bridges

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (R). — A record 900,000 people crossed the Jordan River two bridges in the first 11 months of this year, a senior officer of the military forces of the occupied West Bank said here today.

He said that of the total 600,000 were West Bank residents going to and from Jordan and 250,000 were residents of Arab states visiting friends and relatives. Another 50,000 were American and European tourists.

Tea estate massacre outrages Rhodesian public opinion

SALISBURY, Dec. 21 (R). — White Rhodesians reacted with shock and anger today to the "Melsetter massacre" in which 27 black workers were machinegunned and bayoneted to death by nationalist guerrillas on a tea estate near the Mozambique border.

Coincidentally, today is the fourth anniversary of the outbreak of the war between Rhodesian government forces and the guerrillas, which has cost the lives of 3,051 people.

A Rhodesian military spokesman rejected "with contempt" reported claims from the Mozambique capital of Maputo that the estate killings on Sunday were the work of the Selous Scouts, an "anti-insurgency" unit of the Rhodesian army.

"The world press was taken to the scene of the massacre and spoke to survivors who were in no doubt as to who committed this outrage," the spokesman said. "If the world press is not convinced, then there is nothing else we can do."

Several overseas television crews and a party of local reporters visited the eastern border town of Melsetter yesterday to see the bullet-riddled bodies and to interview

some of the less seriously wounded survivors.

Father Arthur Lewis, a white priest who went to the scene, said today: "This was an act of sickening, cold-blooded barbarity which would be unbelievable if one had not seen the shot and bayoneted bodies of the terrorists' victims."

Government officials said yesterday about 30 guerrillas entered the estate on Sunday and took about 80 Africans from their huts.

The men were separated from their wives and children and lined up and shot. The guerrillas then walked among the bodies bayonetting any men who still showed signs of life, the officials said.

Eleven Africans escaped death by crawling under the bodies of their companions. Many of them are seriously ill in hospital.

Government officials said guerrillas went to the estate several months ago and ordered the workers to go on strike. A survivor of the massacre said one of the guerrillas told the men: "The best thing we can do is to kill you as soon as we can see that you don't want to listen."

Other survivors said that they named those who perpetrated had been the target of a guerrilla intimidation campaign for some

time in an attempt to have the estate work force quit their jobs. Some admitted paying money to the insurgents in the hope of saving them.

Mr. Jones, of the Catholic Commission, who visited the scene of the massacre, said he had seen "at what he had seen."

"We have already made representations to the nationalist leaders over instances such as this."

Mr. Deary is a member of executive of the Justice and Commission, an organisation which has been sharply critical of Rhodesian government in the past.

In an editorial today, the *Star* said: "In the four years the black Rhodesian population has borne from the vicious campaign of intimidation practised by the guerrillas, the catalogue of atrocities will take the lead and the army of liberation."

There must be a change in the African national movement, the paper said.

Other survivors said that they named those who perpetrated had been the target of a guerrilla intimidation campaign for some



MASSACRE VICTIMS -- Fellow workers and believed relatives survey the bodies of some of the men massacred at the tea estate in Rhodesia Monday. (AP wirephoto).

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